

# JohnHoward

The John Howard Society of North Island



## 50 Years



# 1967—2017

Building Safer and Healthier Communities

## Annual Report 2016 - 2017

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### *Our Mission*

We provide programs and support to help children, youth, and families lead safer, healthier lives.



*'Morning Mist' photo by Ken Moore*

### *Our Mandate*

The John Howard Society of North Island provides services to youth, children, adults, and families with diverse needs. Our locations include offices and residential programs, but our work also takes us into schools, homes, and other parts of communities.

We have a holistic approach, recognizing that safer, healthier communities are created through the combined and diverse efforts of citizens, organizations, and governments. We work cooperatively with a broad spectrum of community agencies and committees, while also maintaining involvement in provincial and national organizations that seek to address the social needs of Canadians.

## Who We Are

The John Howard Society has served community justice and social services needs on northern Vancouver Island for 50 years. Beginning as a branch of The John Howard Society of Vancouver Island in 1967, the organization was incorporated as The John Howard Society of North Island in 1989. The society is named after the British prison reformer, John Howard (1726-1790). In 1962 the John Howard Society of Canada was established. There are branches and offices in more than 60 communities across Canada, provincial offices in all 10 provinces and the Northwest Territories, and a national office in Ottawa.

A non-profit society with extensive experience in providing services for youth, children, adults, and families, The John Howard Society of North Island operates numerous programs from 9 locations:

- Campbell River Community Programs/Foundry
- Courtenay Community Programs Office
- Beech Street, Campbell River
- Parksville Youth Justice
- Nanaimo Youth Justice
- Port Alberni Youth Justice
- Duncan Youth Justice
- Robron Centre, Campbell River
- Gold River and Tahsis Health Centres

John Howard programs are situated in the territories of the Kwakwaka'wakw, Nuuchahnulth, and Coast Salish peoples. John Howard has a First Nations Elders' Council to advise the agency on matters relating to culture and inclusion. The Elders help to support culturally appropriate programming within John Howard.

## Our Team



**69** employees



**21** family caregivers



**88** volunteers

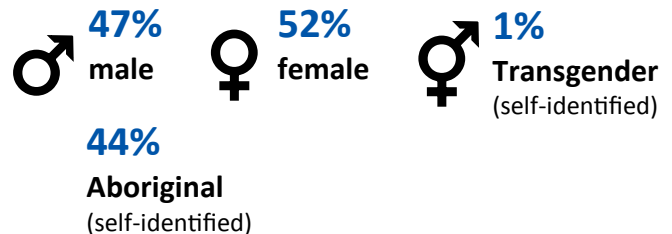
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## Our Clients

In the past year, we served **1,802** individuals.

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### Those participating in our services are:



## President's Report



*Terry Moist*

### Our 50th Anniversary

It gives me great pleasure to write my yearly message on the occasion of The John Howard Society of North Island's 50th anniversary. I can say with conviction that we, as a society, have come a very long way. From one and a half full-time employees providing parole services and forestry camp visits to the multi-office, multi-faceted society of today is truly remarkable. I will leave the detailed chronicling of our journey to others, but it has been an honour to be a part of it. Congratulations to all who have been involved.

It is indicative of the dynamic nature of the society that this year's activities include the establishment of Foundry Campbell River. It is good to see the integration of so many essential services for youth under one roof. On behalf of the board of directors, I want to thank our managers and staff for the extraordinary effort they have made to bring about this valuable project. I also extend my heartfelt appreciation to all the personnel from our community partners for their contributions and commitment. I am convinced that as our youth services unfold and expand, Foundry Campbell River will lead the way for other Foundry centres throughout the province. Well done to all who have worked so co-operatively and so hard.

While the spotlight is clearly on the Campbell River office for now, it in no way diminishes the excellent services that are being provided by our dedicated staff from Gold River to Duncan for both youth and adults. It continues to excite me that government agencies regularly solicit our services to administer their projects. It speaks very highly of

the regard with which The John Howard Society of North Island is held in the social service system.

Thank you to every member of the society. It is your collective, caring contribution that has provided 50 years of excellence, and, I trust, your contribution will continue to positively impact the society long into the future.

It has been my pleasure to serve as the society's president for the past year. Thank you for granting me the honour.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T. L. Moist', written in a cursive style.

T.L. Moist



## Executive Director's Report



*Wendy Richardson*

### 50 Years at John Howard

The John Howard Society of North Island began in 1967 as part of The John Howard Society of Vancouver Island under the direction of Executive Director George Warnock. The Campbell River office opened in 1972 offering federal parole supervision, employment programs, and regular visits to the Adult Provincial Corrections work camp known as Snowden Camp. Paul Barnett became Executive Director in 1981 with just two employees to supervise and was joined by Carol Harling-Bleeks in 1982. When Snowden Camp closed down in 1983, Bill Mathis came on board,

we acquired the camp, renamed it the Challenge Centre, and introduced our first youth life skills program called Connections. We added an office in Courtenay where David Somerville was our first employee.

Incorporated as The John Howard Society of North Island in 1989, the organization began to rapidly expand its youth programming in the early 1990s, adding Youth Forensic Psychiatric Services with its residential component, the Discovery Centre (located at the Challenge Centre), and a range of community services, known as Upper Island Youth Services, that included Alcohol and Drug Counselling, Independent Living, and Youth/Parent Mediation—all programs that we continue to offer youth today. The Connections program lasted about five years, and our Headstart program working with teen boys leaving custody was established in its place. With more than 100 employees by the mid-1990s, our staff certified with Health Sciences Association, and our first collective agreement came into being in December 1995.

Our first experience working with family care homes came about through a short term partnership with PLEA Community Services in the late 1990s. Recognizing the benefits of providing a family home environment for teen boys on probation who cannot reside in their own homes, we closed our Discovery Centre residential program and set up specialized care homes in the community. The vacant Discovery Centre building was then modified to house our new Oasis girls' program that offered a residential alternative to custody for youth having difficulty managing in the community. At about the same time, we expanded our youth justice services into several new communities in Duncan, Nanaimo, Parksville, and Port Alberni, as well as adding to youth justice services in Courtenay and Campbell River.

All this expansion and change had taken place very rapidly. The organization began to beef up its policies and protocols, and we became accredited by COA in the fall of 2003. Spurred on by accreditation demands, the society also invested in a complete upgrade of its information

## Executive Director's Report cont.

technology systems. At the same time, reductions in government funding meant the closing of several valuable programs and the need to move the staff and programs at Upper Island Youth Services into the main office on 10th Avenue.

The success of the family home model supported the decision to move Headstart and Oasis into the community, operating the day portion of the program at the former Rockland School and recruiting wonderful families as caregivers for the young people attending these programs. The closing of our residential programs at the Challenge Centre meant a loss of a significant number of our staff members. However, we added valuable new programs: our detox and supportive recovery program that also utilized the family carehome model, and the KidStart mentoring program. We also recognized the need for secure electronic storage of client records and partnered with PLEA in the development of a Case Administration Management System (CAMS).

Paul Barnett decided to retire in

2007 after 26 years of building a valuable and resilient organization, and Wendy Richardson stepped into the role of Executive Director. In 2008, we purchased a six-plex apartment for youth housing which we named Barnett House. We also moved our Headstart and Oasis programs to a bright and airy space downtown very close to our main office. We were reaccredited by CARF, which used standards that were a better fit for our programs than COA. In 2012, Carol Harling-Bleeks retired after almost 30 years with the society.

In 2015, we took the bold step of purchasing the building on 10th Avenue in Campbell River that we had occupied for more than 20 years. This helped us in our application to be one of five lead agencies in a ground-breaking pilot project across BC that brings health and social services together to make it easier for young people to find the care, connection, and support they need. To achieve this, we developed extraordinary partnerships with key service providers in Campbell River. In 2017, after extensive renovations to the ground floor of our building, we were the first centre to offer

services under the name Foundry.

Over the years, we have been privileged to work with many remarkable individuals including board members, volunteers, staff, and partners who have all contributed to the successful story that is John Howard. It would take an entire report to name and thank them all but it seems very important to recognize Terry Moist, who has been a staunch board member for 40 years, as well as other long serving board members such as Brian Kelly and Pat Field. Loyalty to the organization spans generations. Justus Havelaar served on the board in the 1970s and his son, Jay Havelaar, is on the board today. Staff who have worked for us for more than 25 years include Paul Barnett, Carol Harling-Bleeks, Kerry Hammell, Wendy Richardson, Peter Kinskofer, and Heather Cowper. On our 50th anniversary, I would like to thank all those who have participated over the years and made the organization what it is today.



Wendy Richardson

## New Programming

### Foundry Campbell River



This has been a very exciting year for youth services in Campbell River. The community was selected by the Province as one of six locations across BC to be the home of an accessible, youth-friendly, multi-service storefront for young people ages 12-24. The name of our new youth services centre is Foundry Campbell River.

As the lead agency, John Howard is collaborating with government, community agencies, community partners, and donors, to bring together a variety of health and social services under one roof. By working in partnership with young people and families, Foundry is transforming the way we offer

mental health, primary care, substance use counselling, and social services such as job search and life skills supports. Foundry staff work together with youth and their families to determine what support they need.

The centre is hosted by John Howard in partnership with Island Health (Mental Health and Substance Use, and Public Health), MCFD (Child and Youth Mental Health and Youth Services), School District #72, North Island Employment Foundations Society, Sasamans Society, Campbell River Family Services, Campbell River Community Literacy Association, Campbell River and District Division of Family Practice, Campbell River and District Association for Community Living, and the City of Campbell River-Parks and Recreation.

Foundry is situated in John Howard's 10th Avenue building, which was extensively renovated prior to the centre's March opening. Foundry's prototype centre, the Granville Youth Health Centre, was launched in downtown Vancouver in 2015. In addition to Campbell River, there will be new centres in Abbotsford, Kelowna,

Prince George, and the North Shore (North and West Vancouver).

Foundry is funded by the BC Ministry of Health, philanthropic organizations, and donations. From April 1-May 31, the Robert L. Conconi Foundation matched all donations to Foundry centres across BC up to \$500,000. This included \$25,000 in matching funds for Campbell River. During the matching campaign, we held a salmon bbq fundraiser sponsored by Marine Harvest Canada. We also had an Open House to introduce Foundry to the Campbell River community. Both events were a great success. Find out more at [facebook.com/foundrycampbellriver](https://facebook.com/foundrycampbellriver)



*Members of Foundry's Youth Council are key advisors in setting the direction of the youth services centre.*

KidStart pairs volunteer adult mentors with children and youth ages 6-18 who could benefit from building a positive relationship with a buddy, getting out in the community, and having fun. Through the gift of time, our KidStart mentors help kids grow, thrive, and connect with the community they call home.

JohnHoward  
KidStart

*KidStart photo by Bluetree Photography*

**A Snapshot:** In the past year, **77** mentees were matched with mentors who volunteered **11,602** hours.

### Areas Served

Campbell River  
Comox Valley  
Quadra Island

### Portion of John Howard budget:

**2%**

### Staff

**2** part-time employees

**75** volunteers

**KidStart is funded entirely through grants, donations, and Gaming funds.**

### KidStart participants are:

**♂ 51%**  
males  
**39**

**♀ 49%**  
females  
**38**

**44%**  
Aboriginal  
**34** (self-identified)

### From the families who gave feedback this year:

**82%** of children and youth have increased connection to school/community

**100%** of children and youth have improved self-esteem

**100%** say KidStart is making a positive difference in their child's life

*“Having a stable male influence in my son's life has helped him a lot. He's much more confident now.”*



## Supports to Families

Our **Behavioural Support, Youth and Family Conflict Resolution**, and **Collaborative Planning** programs provide the support families and caregivers need when they are facing challenges.

**A Snapshot: 126** families participated in one or more of our support programs.



*“During the past three years the big highlight for me was my involvement with you. The support, understanding, guidance, suggestions, knowledge, and your overall positive style made all the difference in our experience of fostering.”*

**Families who participated are:**

**20%**

**Aboriginal**

25 (self-identified)

**Areas Served**

Campbell River  
Comox Valley

**Portion of John Howard budget:**

**8%**

**Staff**

4 employees

The Collaborative Planning program assisted with more than **200** meetings between families and social workers, helping families understand and participate in the process.

**From the families who gave feedback this year:**

*“We benefit from the relief your support gives us in our care for the youth we have, and the insights shared to deal with the challenges.”*

*“Our family has a better understanding of one another and our relationships have improved, thanks to the new skills we developed through the Youth and Family Conflict Resolution program.”*

## Housing for Youth



Our **Independent Living** and **Barnett House** programs provide housing and life skills support for youth.

**A Snapshot:** In the past year, **41** youth received support from our housing programs.

### Areas Served

Campbell River

**Portion of John Howard budget:**

**4%**

### Staff

**2** employees

### Independent Living and Barnett House participants are:

**♂ 34%**  
males  
**14**

**♀ 63%**  
females  
**26**

**♂♀ 1%**  
Transgender  
**1** (self-identified)

**49%**  
Aboriginal  
**20** (self-identified)

### From the clients who gave feedback this year:

**85%** of youth were either attending school or working

**78%** were engaged in the program and working to complete identified goals

**100%** of youth would recommend the program to a family member or friend

## Housing for Youth

### RentSmart

Four young people completed our RentSmart course and were successful in securing housing as a result. RentSmart is a 12-hour course designed to prepare people to become responsible tenants. One of the benefits the youth noted from the workshop was that they felt much more confident when they met potential landlords.



### In My Corner

Ben\* moved into Barnett House just before his 17th birthday and lived there for two years. Before living at Barnett House, he did not have stable or safe housing. Frequent conflict and ongoing addiction issues in his home meant Ben had trouble sleeping and eating regularly and could not focus on school. He was often too angry to concentrate. His home life was chaotic and stressful. Barnett House programming and



*Barnett House*

the Barnett House Coordinator helped Ben in many areas of his life, including school, employment, mental health, medical and dental issues, family and peer conflicts, and independent living skills. He learned about financial management, budgeting, meal planning, and healthy lifestyle choices.

Ben said this about Barnett House and the Coordinator: "I'm glad to have you with me and to have you in my corner. It's so much easier to do things when I have you around. I appreciate everything you do for me and I couldn't have made it this far without your help and support."

Ben graduated from high school and, after focusing on his employment readiness, got a job

in December 2016 and has been working full time ever since. He reports that he is proud of himself and feels that he is a valuable employee. These days, Ben is living independently and is focused on work and other positive personal goals.

\*Name has been changed to protect privacy.

### Independent Living

Sometimes young people come in to see us for one service and quickly engage with another service that supports them to move forward in their life. A young man working on conflict resolution was happy to receive additional help from our youth counsellor in the Independent Living program. After learning basic life skills including laundry, cooking, and money management and budgeting, as well as some relationship skills, he was thrilled to be able to secure an independent living suite with the assistance of the youth counsellor. Now he has a full-time job and is excited to pursue a career and education through the Armed Forces.



## Substance Use



Our **Substance Use Counselling, 180°, Youth Outreach, Youth & Family Counselling,** and **Alcohol & Drug Prevention & Early Intervention** programs provide support for youth and families.

**A Snapshot:** In the past year, **939** youth and family members received substance use services.

### Areas Served

Campbell River  
Comox Valley  
Gold River  
Tahsis

**Portion of John  
Howard budget:**

**19%**

**Staff**

**10** employees

### Substance Use services clients are:

**35%**  
♂  
**males**  
332

**65%**  
♀  
**females**  
607

**48%**  
**Aboriginal**  
454 (self-identified)

### From the youth who gave feedback this year:

**82%** of Gold River clients had improved coping skills to deal with challenges of day to day living

**86%** of youth reported that their situation is better since meeting their outreach worker

*“I liked having someone to talk to who actually understands and believes that what you’re going through is real.”*

## Substance Use

### 180° Relaunch

In February of this year, the 180° Detox and Supportive Recovery program underwent a restructuring in order to improve utilization. Most significantly, the program moved over to our Beech Street location and became integrated with the day programming being offered through the Oasis and Headstart programs. In addition, two activity and supervision workers were brought on board to provide community integration support during weekends and evenings. The program has seen tremendous success since its relaunch, with an average 97% occupancy in its first three months.

### Where We All Belong

Staff from our Courtenay Youth and Family Substance Use Counselling program have been active members on the local Community Drug Strategy Committee since its inception in 2002. Over the past year, the committee, in collaboration with Shaw Community Television, has prepared, created, and produced

a 14-episode series called “Where We All Belong.” The series shows the continuum of drug and alcohol services available in the Comox Valley. The John Howard Youth and Family Substance Use Counselling program is highlighted in one of the episodes.



*L-R: John Howard's Diane Daigle, Vicki Luckman, Gary Fort, and Anny Finnegan at the premiere showing of Where We All Belong.*

### Parent Support Group

In Courtenay, a parent support group has been meeting weekly to share information related to substance use, mental health, positive parenting, self-care, and emotional wellness. In the past

year, more than 70 parents have participated with approximately 10 parents attending each meeting. We have created a non-judgmental and supportive environment that has encouraged and assisted parents in taking responsibility for their role in the relationships with their children and partners. One parent said: “This group has made such a difference in my life. It has given me strength when I was at my lowest point.”

### Foundry Benefits Youth

One of our youth counsellors with 27 years of experience working with young people challenged by substance use, reports that “in the short time Foundry has been up and running, my clients have had quicker and easier access to youth mental health services, physician care, the youth health clinic, employment counselling, healthy activities, and independent living. As more programming is created at Foundry, youth will continue to benefit from so many services under one roof and the benefits of those programs working together to support them.”



## Mental Health



Our **Child and Youth Mental Health Outreach** and **Foundry Mental Health Counselling** programs provide support and counselling for children, youth, and families.

**A Snapshot:** In the past year, **11** children, youth, and families received mental health services in the Comox Valley. Foundry was launched in March 2017 and new staff were beginning to make connections.

### Areas Served

Comox Valley  
Campbell River

**Portion of John  
Howard budget:**

**10%**


### Staff

**5** employees

These statistics reflect Child and Youth Mental Health Outreach only, as Foundry opened in March 2017.

### Mental health services participants are:

 **86%**  
males  
9

 **14%**  
females  
2

**43%**  
**Aboriginal**  
5 (self-identified)

### From the families and referral sources who gave feedback:

*“I know there are children growing up better because of you.”*

*“She is able to connect, bring out trust, and inspire confidence in her clients. She helps them walk through ‘their stuff’ to the place of seeing things differently.”*

## Mental Health

### Moving Forward

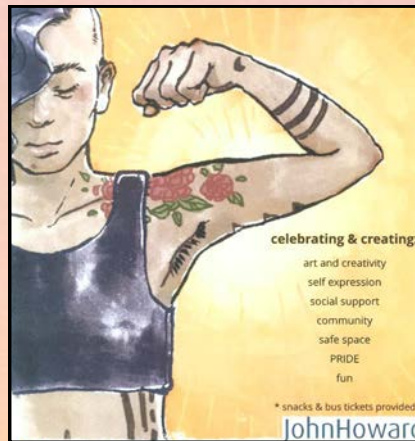
Bringing services together under the Foundry umbrella benefits young people in many ways. A young woman coming to us from a difficult childhood, struggling with severe anxiety and finding it hard to leave her room, met with a youth counsellor who introduced her to one of our employment counsellors from NIEFS. The youth counsellor smoothed the transition by accompanying the youth to three of her six employment counselling sessions. With the employment counsellor's help, the young woman obtained a seasonal job and has now been accepted into North Island College for post-secondary education.

### One Stop Shop

One of our new mental health counsellors explains, "The exciting difference I have experienced working with Foundry's vision is the ability to support young people walking through the doors with a one stop shop approach. A youth meets with the intake counsellor to explore the youth's

concerns and the counsellor links the youth to the services offered within the building. As Foundry provides drop in counselling four days a week for four hours per day, immediate supports are available and wait lists are non-existent. I am grateful that Foundry is able to support youth where they are at and in a timely manner."

### LGBTQ+ Youth Group



The LGBTQ+ peer youth group started in October 2016 and has become a successful group for youth ages 15-24 who identify along the LGBTQ+ spectrum. The weekly group meets at Foundry and promotes mental health and

wellness by reducing isolation, fostering belonging and connection, building community, and strengthening resilience. The group also promotes self-acceptance, self-love, and confidence, as well as celebrating diversities and uniqueness. It provides a safe space for youth to be themselves, be accepted, have their pronouns respected, socialize, and be involved in community projects like Campbell River Pride and seeking the city's approval for a rainbow painted crosswalk. A total of 18 youth have accessed the group and 16 are members of the closed Facebook group. An average of six youth attend weekly. One group member said, "I'm lesbian and it's a place I feel safe." Another said, "I'm happy because everyone is nice to me and I don't feel left out." A 16-year-old trans youth has overcome a fear of taking public transit. With the group's support she has taken the bus several times now on her own. She holds the group's best attendance record and hasn't missed one session since she started coming in November. "I love this group!" she said.

## Youth Justice



Our **Headstart Boys Program, Oasis Girls Program, Intensive Support and Supervision (ISSP), Youth Forensic Psychiatric Services, Youth Justice Homes**, and **Bail Bed** programs provide a wide range of services from residential programs to community-based one-to-one support.

**A Snapshot:** In the past year, **215** youth accessed our youth justice services.

### Areas Served

Campbell River  
Comox Valley  
Parksville  
Nanaimo  
Port Alberni  
Duncan

### Portion of John Howard budget:

**45%**

### Staff

**25** employees

### Youth Justice participants are:

**72%**  
♂ males  
154

**28%**  
♀ females  
61

**36%**  
**Aboriginal**  
78 (self-identified)

### From the referral sources and clients who gave feedback this year:

**86%** of probation officers felt their clients had benefited from their participation in the Oasis/Headstart programs

**70%** of clients rate having someone to talk to and help with behaviour and emotions as areas where ISSP workers helped the most

## Youth Justice

### Cultural Connections

On Monday mornings our Oasis girls spend time with Kathi Camilleri (Aboriginal Child and Youth Mental Health) and Alberta Billy (We Wai Kai Elder). They gather together for tea and share stories, lessons, and support. This opportunity to connect in a culturally safe space has become a highlight for the girls. Kathi recently attended a graduation ceremony for one of the Oasis girls and led a traditional opening where the youth was wrapped in a blanket, ensuring she continued to feel the warmth, support, and connection she had found in their time together.

### Graduations

With the increase in 17-19 year old youth attending both Headstart and Oasis, our teachers have begun to offer coursework that supports high school completion through the Adult Dogwood and School Completion certificate streams.

Over the past two years five youth have successfully completed high school while in

the programs. Their accomplishment has been celebrated with cap and gown photos and a presentation from our district principal, Kai Taylor.



### Reading Buddy

Reading Buddy is one of the volunteer opportunities we offer young people in Oasis and Headstart. The youth join a local kindergarten class one morning a week where they assist with reading programs, gym class, and centre time. Having their “Big Buddies” come hang out is a thrill for the kindergarteners and there are always lots of hugs and high fives.

### Positive Outcomes

A number of youth in the

Intensive Support and Supervision Program continue to achieve positive outcomes. Two are currently completing college level courses or programs, some have found steady employment and are able to maintain these jobs, while two more are successfully living on their own, maintaining housing of a standard higher than what they would have expected previously. Our program workers continue to be inventive in supporting clients to achieve positive outcomes while holding them accountable to the expectations of their court orders.

### Meeting Challenges

Some young people in our youth justice programs present with mental health issues and it is challenging to find youth-friendly resources in some communities for them to access. As well, fentanyl use among some youth continues and workers are seeing some young people living lifestyles that pose significant risk to their health and safety. Our staff continue to take training to learn how to best assist youth with mental health and substance use challenges.



## Adult Programs



Our **Homeless Outreach and Prevention**, **Community Living BC Outreach**, and **Adult Forensic Outreach** programs provide assistance in the areas of housing, daily living, and accessing supports.

**A Snapshot:** In the past year, **393** clients participated in our adult programs.

### Areas Served

Campbell River  
Comox Valley

**Portion of John  
Howard budget:**

**12%**

### Staff

**7** employees

### Participants in our adult programs are:

**♂** **70%**  
males  
**275**

**♀** **30%**  
females  
**118**

**44%**  
**Aboriginal**  
**172** (self-identified)

### Program News:

The Homeless Outreach and Prevention program provided **613** rental supplements

The Adult Forensic Outreach contract was terminated at the end of this year due to insufficient funding

### Feedback from a client:

*“My worker has been a great listener and supported me to problem solve some of my relationship challenges.”*



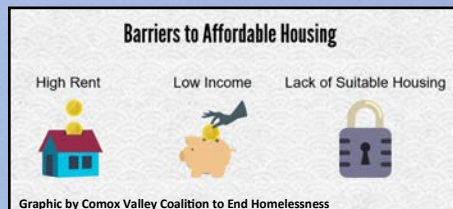
## Adult Programs

### Finding Housing

In response to the Campbell River “tent city,” BC Housing provided additional one-time funding focused on individuals who were using the extreme weather shelter. With the extra funds, our staff were able to successfully find housing for many people, primarily in local hotels. This resulted in a 35% reduction, compared to the previous year, in the use of both the extreme weather and Evergreen shelters over the winter of 2016-2017. Pleased with this success, BC Housing has provided us with ongoing additional funding to continue to support these clients in single room occupancies.

The current Campbell River vacancy rate is estimated to be negative, with more people seeking rentals than there are available units. Most property management companies use screening tools that limit tenants to those whose income is at least 2.5 times their rent. This makes it challenging for individuals on social assistance or persons with a disability (PWD) funding to find housing. Recent construction projects at the John Hart Dam and

Campbell River Hospital have brought an influx of workers and created a sharp decrease in vacancy rates. Even those with employment, good references, good credit, and no criminal record are finding it difficult to obtain affordable housing.



### Helping with Transitions

Our Community Living of British Columbia (CLBC) Outreach program continues to expand. This year the program was approved to be a service provider for adults who meet the Developmental Disability criteria, as well as for those who qualify for the Personal Support Initiatives funding. This increases our capacity to provide service to eligible clients who are transitioning from our youth services to this adult service and ensure they do not “fall through the cracks.”

Through our CLBC Outreach program, we are sometimes able

to provide stability as a young adult transitions out of youth services. In this way, we were able to assist some young people who were leaving our youth housing program and who were eligible for CLBC supports. Being able to transfer to an adult service worker within our agency made this process much easier. The workers were able to coordinate services, meet together with the young adults, and ensure they were engaged with the new worker. It was an easy, smooth transition for young people who have found it challenging to engage with new services in the past.

In a similar situation, we were asked to work with a young adult who has a long-term relationship with our agency and has frequently dropped by to connect with past workers. The individual experiences significant barriers, so being able to connect to a John Howard CLBC outreach worker facilitated a much easier transition for him. Having a worker dedicated to work with him has increased his safety, and helped to further create a sense of belonging to our agency.

## Part of Our Family



*Anita Smith and Ken Marshall*

“When we take a youth in, it’s not just that we’re giving them a room, they become part of our family,” said Anita Smith.

For Anita and her husband, Ken Marshall, providing an Aboriginal family care home for youth in John Howard’s Headstart and Oasis programs is a rewarding experience. Anita and Ken opened their home to youth in John Howard programs after close friends who are caregivers recommended that they try it.

“We’ve always been involved with youth, and our own kids had grown and gone so we were empty nesters. We have lived in First Nations communities along the coast and knew there was a shortage of Aboriginal homes. We’ve also worked for different native bands in various capacities

and have been very involved in First Nations culture,” said Ken.

Anita is from Kitkatla Band, one of the 14 bands in the Tsimshian Nation. She was born on Digby Island and raised in Prince Rupert. Ken has family who are Aboriginal and a great appreciation for First Nations’ culture. Their life experiences enable them to relate well to the youth who come to live in their home.

“We both at one time in our youth were in foster care. I think you get a unique perspective from that and it influenced us to get into caregiving. Due to our backgrounds, we are keenly aware of some of the issues the youth are experiencing,” said Ken.

Anita works for the North Vancouver Island Aboriginal Training Society (NVIATS), helping youth with employment readiness, life skills, problem solving, and career planning. Ken, who is the full-time caregiver, is very active and outdoorsy and takes the youth hiking, bike riding, walking at the beach, and more.

Cultural experiences help to make First Nations youth feel

comfortable in Anita and Ken’s home. “They miss the extended family connection if they’ve been brought up in a native community. We have some cultural traditions and foods that help the youth connect with us, like having a meal of oolichan grease, fish, rice, and seaweed. They love that we all sit down and eat together,” Anita noted.

Anita added that it is really important to accept the youth where they are at and allow them to grow.

“All the youth are different and you need to learn to approach them on their level. We work with the youth to problem solve when they have a challenge.

Communication with the youth’s key worker, counsellors, family resource worker, and other John Howard staff is key. We all have to be on the same page. When you see a youth begin to turn his or her life around, make better choices, and start to feel that they are worth something, it is very rewarding. It’s so nice to see them become the youth they really are instead of their street self, the armor they wear to protect themselves.”

## News from John Howard

### Spirit of John Howard Award

The Spirit of John Howard Award recognizes individuals who make a major contribution to the youth justice system, the young people we serve, our communities, and The John Howard Society of North Island. In 2016 our Spirit of John Howard Award went to Tim Agg, Executive Director of PLEA Community Services from 1982-2016, and Ann Alexander, Program Director of PLEA from 1984-2016.

John Howard's executive director Wendy Richardson and retired executive director Paul Barnett presented the awards to Tim and Ann at their March 2016 retirement celebration in Vancouver. Tim and Ann have been leading experts in youth services and youth justice issues in BC.

Ann began work as a one-to-one youth justice worker in 1976 and became a Probation Officer in 1979. From the beginning of her career, she was an advocate of strength-based child care work and the maxim of "never giving up" when working with a youth.



*Ann Alexander and Tim Agg*

Tim has been a leader, both provincially and nationally, in developing and advocating for vibrant and holistic programming for children and youth.

Since the early 1990s, both Ann and Tim committed PLEA to becoming a full and supportive partner with John Howard in joint projects to fulfill common goals, values, and beliefs. John Howard and the youth and children we have served have benefited enormously from this relationship.

After receiving the award, Tim said the recognition was very meaningful. "The PLEA-John Howard partnership is enriching both for our organizations and for those of us who have built collegial relationships."

### Focus on Reconciliation

For our 50th anniversary, The John Howard Society of North Island has selected Truth and Reconciliation as a special focus for the year. As part of this initiative, a committee of the board has been working on a Reconciliation Framework for the agency in consultation with our First Nations Elders' Council. We are thrilled that Chief Dr. Robert Joseph, the Ambassador for Reconciliation Canada, accepted our invitation to be the keynote speaker at our 2017 AGM. Chief Joseph will also give a talk on reconciliation at the Kwanwatsi Big House for students and the community during his visit to Campbell River.



*Chief Dr. Robert Joseph, O.B.C.*



## Our Funders and Donors 2016-2017

### Government

- Ministry of Children and Family Development
- Vancouver Island Health Authority
- BC Housing
- Forensic Psychiatric Services Commission
- Community Living BC

### Capital Funding

- Providence Health

### John Howard KidStart Grants

- Children's Health Foundation of Vancouver Island
- Province of BC-Gaming
- RBC Foundation
- Service Canada-Canada Summer Jobs
- Shaw Employee Giving
- United Way Central & Northern Vancouver Island

### John Howard KidStart Champions

#### Gold (\$100/month)

- 090 Builders Group
- Altrusa International of Campbell River
- Balfe/Somers Wealth Management of RBC Dominion Securities
- CEP Chinook Local #630
- Colleen Ross
- Cory Evans

- Curtis Wright
- Fraternal Order of Eagles #3097 Ladies Auxiliary
- Jay Havelaar & Leanne Wood
- Judith Hayes
- Judy Storr
- Moeller Matthews Chartered Professional Accountants
- Sandra Allen-Investors Group
- Wakhsh Contracting Ltd.
- Wendy Richardson
- Willow Point Lions
- Young Professionals of Campbell River

#### Silver (\$50/month)

- Alan Storr
- Florence Robertson
- Healthyway Natural Foods Market
- Kathi Camilleri
- Lori McKeown
- On the Rocks Climbing Gym
- Terry Moist & Patricia Trasolini
- Western Financial

#### Bronze (\$25/month)

- Busy B's Glass
- Campbell River Hyundai
- Campbell River Oldtimers Hockey Club
- Colin Brownlee
- Comox Valley Monarch Lions
- Deanna Collins, Royal LePage Advance Realty

- Dr. Kerry Baerg
- Kira Neumann
- Leigh Simms
- Marion Waters
- Mary Catherine Williams
- RBC/Peter Phillips
- Tanya Storr
- Tara Jordan

### Other Grants

- Courtenay Drug Strategy Committee
- Island Health-Community Wellness
- ParticipACTION Teen Challenge
- The Home Depot Canada Foundation

### Other Donations Over \$500

- B. MacLeod
- Cagna Family
- Campbell River Daybreak Rotary
- Carihi 2015 Grad Class
- City of Campbell River
- City of Courtenay
- Dr. & Mr. Ehle
- Marine Harvest Canada
- Microsoft
- TD Bank

**Heartfelt thanks to our many other individual, business, and group donors who are too many to list.**

*Thank you for helping us build safer and healthier communities!*

# Financial Information

## Statement of Financial Position as at March 31, 2017

	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>Assets</b>	\$	\$
Current Assets	1,611,952	966,956
Investments	2,900	2,900
Property and Equipment	2,027,948	1,391,036
	<u>3,642,800</u>	<u>2,360,892</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Current Liabilities	590,670	298,837
Deferred revenue	403,312	91,364
Long Term Debt	402,258	419,215
	<u>1,396,240</u>	<u>809,416</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		
Equity In Property And Equipment	1,608,842	955,555
Externally Restricted	157,389	175,730
Internally Restricted	32,248	32,129
Unrestricted	448,081	388,062
	<u>2,246,560</u>	<u>1,551,476</u>
	<u>3,642,800</u>	<u>2,360,892</u>

## Statement of Operations for the year ended March 31, 2017

	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>Funding</b>	\$	\$
Government contracts	4,985,070	4,074,081
Unearned revenue	(293,550)	(12,667)
Capital funding	521,380	- - -
Rental revenue	88,035	74,291
Donations and fundraising revenue	105,489	123,697
Gaming revenue	46,982	46,700
Miscellaneous revenue	31,759	28,762
	<u>5,485,165</u>	<u>4,334,864</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Wages and benefits	3,257,280	3,035,360
Family caregiver fees and expenses	356,904	398,199
Programs	540,006	364,074
Administrative	63,822	28,415
Amortization	103,903	86,411
Facilities	277,278	269,225
Rental supplements	176,015	40,988
Interest on long term debt	14,873	14,124
	<u>4,790,081</u>	<u>4,236,796</u>
<b>Excess of revenue over expenditure</b>	<u>695,084</u>	<u>98,068</u>

*Audited financial statements available on request.*





[www.jhsni.bc.ca](http://www.jhsni.bc.ca)

### **The John Howard Society of North Island**

140 10th Avenue

Campbell River, BC V9W 4E3

Telephone: 250-286-0611

Facsimile: 250-286-3650

E-mail: [mail@jhsni.bc.ca](mailto:mail@jhsni.bc.ca)

[www.facebook.com/JHSNI](http://www.facebook.com/JHSNI)

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Ask about our CARF accreditation



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## **Make a Difference!**

The John Howard Society of North Island welcomes donations to support our work in building safer, healthier communities. Your contribution will help us to make a difference in the lives of vulnerable children, youth, adults, and families.



Three of our initiatives that currently need support are KidStart, Foundry Campbell River, and the Youth Enhancement Fund.

John Howard KidStart is a preventative volunteer mentoring program focusing on the positive development of children and youth ages 6-18.

Foundry Campbell River is our new multi-service centre for young people and families, offering primary care, mental health and substance use counselling, and social services.

The Youth Enhancement Fund pays for special expenses for young people that are not covered by other funds, including urgent dental care, emergency groceries and transportation, and job readiness expenses.

Donations can be mailed, dropped off in person, or made online: [www.jhsni.bc.ca](http://www.jhsni.bc.ca)

*The John Howard Society of North Island is a registered charity. Registration #10754252RR0001.*